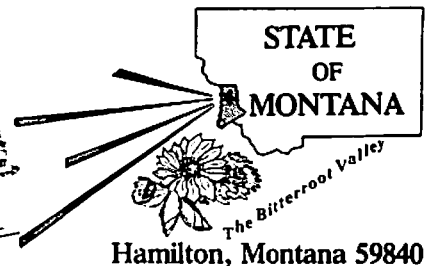
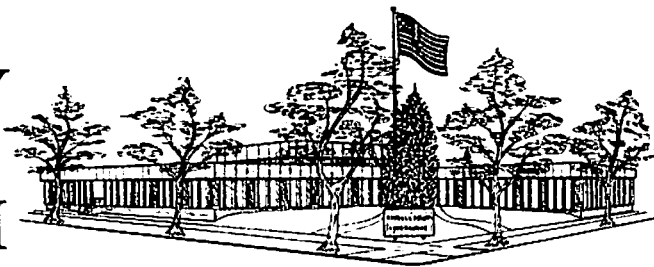


COUNTY OF RAVALLI



February 12, 2008

Bill Meisner, Mayor
Town of Stevensville
P.O. Box 30
Stevensville, MT. 59870

RE: Water Improvement Project

Dear Mayor Meisner;

On behalf of the Ravalli County Commissioners, I would like to offer our full support for the Town's proposed Water Improvement Project. We appreciate that the Town is taking a proactive approach to reducing water losses that are estimated at over 300,000 gallons per day (100 million gallons annual). In addition, the Town plans to increase water production which has proven marginal for peak summer use, and to replace the existing rapid sand filter (which cannot meet EPA requirements for safe drinking water), with a safe and adequate groundwater supply. Other system improvements needed include upgrades and replacements to provide fire flows and adequate capacity for maximum day use. Given the broad scope and urgent needs of this Project, it is helpful that the Town of Stevensville is taking positive steps to do their part in improving the existing water supply and distribution system.

As you well know, Ravalli County has experienced record growth for the past 20 years and the Town of Stevensville has experienced over 23% growth in population from 2000 to 2006. The anticipated Water Improvement Project is necessary for the health and safety of the Stevensville residents and also benefits the entire County with safe and dependable drinking water.

We enthusiastically lend our support for any grants and funding opportunities that the Town may pursue to carry out this essential work, and thank you for your efforts in this matter.

Sincerely,

Carlotta Grandstaff, Chairperson
Ravalli County Commissioners